

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Dirk Hogan

Serial No.: 10/038,205

Filing Date: January 4, 2002

Title: Efficient Validation of Network
Configuration Change Commands§
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Attorney Docket No.: 10016717-1

Examiner: Tran, Nghi V

Group Art Unit: 2151

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**COMMENTS ON THE EXAMINER'S
STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Dear Sir:

The Applicant acknowledges that the Examiner has noted reasons for allowance. Applicant does not disagree that the indicated claims are allowable. Instead, Applicant wishes to note the following.

Each claim is independently allowable because it is both novel and non-obvious in view of the art of record. Applicant understands that any paraphrasing in the Examiner's reasons for allowance is not meant to suggest that all claims are allowable for the same reason. The claims may employ different words and phrases and any attempt to characterize the Examiner's wording as suggesting such sameness among independent claim sets would be unreasonable.

It is Applicant's further understanding that the Examiner's paraphrasing is not an attempt to characterize, interpret or limit the claims. Applicant understands that the Examiner's paraphrasing has been done as an expedient for the purposes of calling to mind certain language of corresponding features some or all of which may be present in the other claims. It is to be recalled that patentability considers each claim separately and as a whole on the merits of what the given claim recites.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application; the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact T. Grant Ritz, Reg. No. 39,819 at 970-898-0697.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4-14-6



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